Council Communication No. 97-264

SYNOPSIS –

Adopt priorities as a guide to the development of the 1998 Consolidated Plan; refer priorities for citizen review and ranking at Town Meetings to be held on June 5, 1997.

FISCAL IMPACT –

N/A.

RECOMMENDATION –

Approval.

BACKGROUND –

The City is required to submit a Consolidated Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive 1998 HUD funding. The Consolidated Plan combines the planning and submission process for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, and Emergency Shelter Grant Programs. The purpose is to eliminate duplication in planning and promote a coordinated strategy, including private and non-private organizations and public institutions.

The citizen participation requirements of the Consolidated Plan emphasize the involvement of low-, very low-, and extremely low-income residents of areas where housing and community development funds may be spent. There are also requirements for two public hearings and a 30-day period for citizen comment.

Council is asked to adopt the unranked priorities as recommended by the Des Moines Action Board (DMAB) and Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB) at their joint board meeting held on May 13, 1997. The unranked priorities will be referred for citizen review and ranking at Town Meetings to be held in each Council Ward on June 5, 1997. The results of the ranking of priorities from the Town Meetings will be presented to both the DMAB and NAB for adoption or amendment on June 9,1997. The recommendations for priorities will then be forwarded to the City Council for final approval on June 16, 1997. On June 16, Council will also authorize the issuing of RFPs for the 1998 Consolidated Plan.